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URBAN DISTRICT OF OTLEY



ANNUAL REPORT

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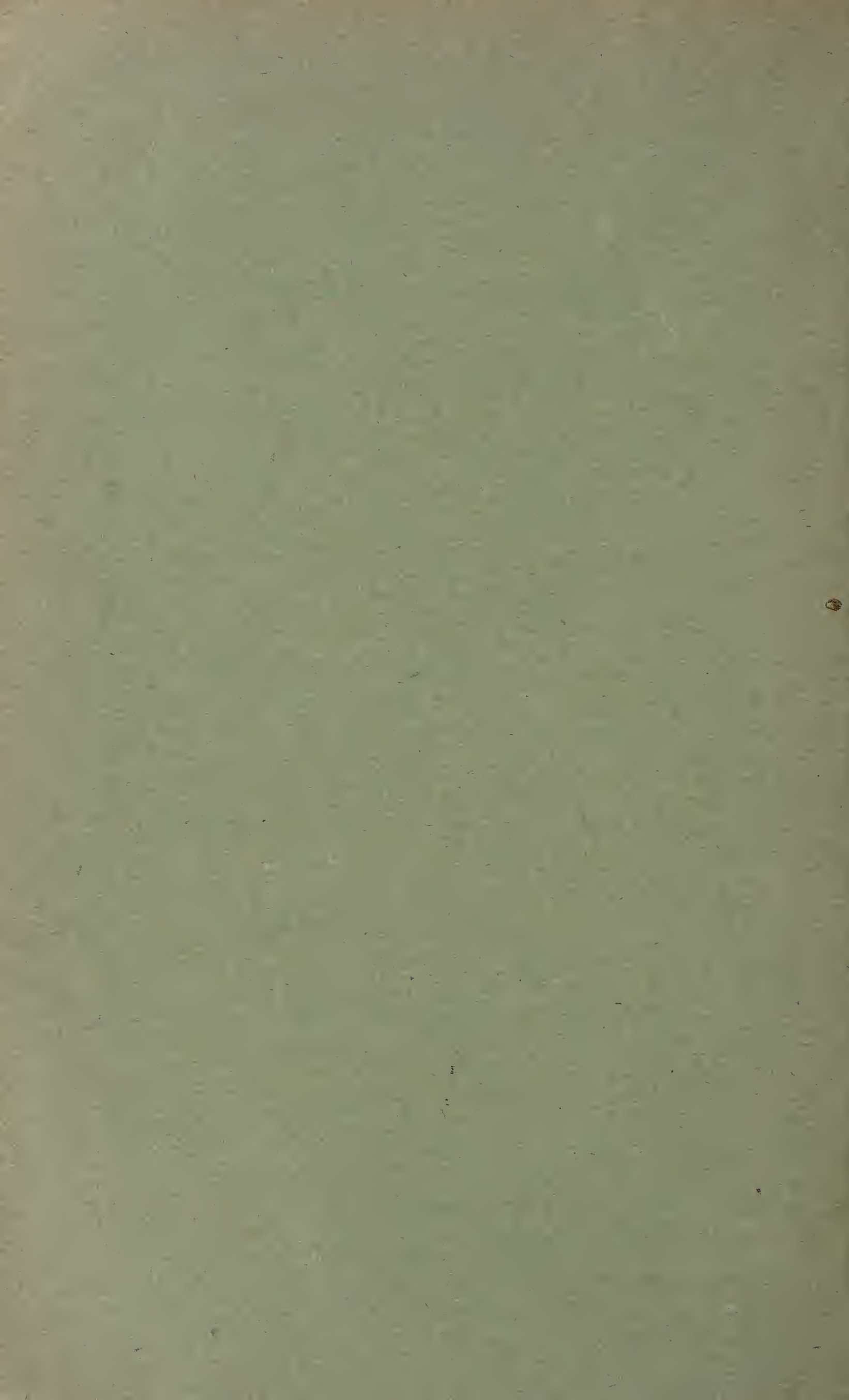
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

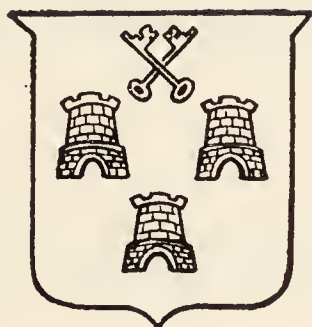
1948

BY

R. A. W. PROCTER,
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.



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LIST OF COUNCILLORS FOR THE YEAR 1948

Chairman:

COUNCILLOR A. MYERS.

Vice-Chairman:

COUNCILLOR H. T. SPENCE.

COUNCILLOR T. JOHNSON

COUNCILLOR G. LAMBERT

COUNCILLOR R. RENWICK

COUNCILLOR D. H. SMALLWOOD

COUNCILLOR T. S. PICKLES

COUNCILLOR E. C. RAYNES

COUNCILLOR S. ROBINSON

COUNCILLOR K. MILLIGAN

COUNCILLOR M. J. FEATHER

COUNCILLOR D. I. WILKINSON

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL

Medical Officer of Health:

R. A. W. PROCTER, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent:

H. R. WHITAKER, R.P., Cert. S.I.B., M.S.I.A.

The appointment of Medical Officer of Health is a part-time one.

DIVISIONAL HEALTH OFFICE,
BOROUGHGATE,
OTLEY.

July, 1949.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF
THE OTLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MR. CHAIRMAN, MRS. WILKINSON AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the health of the Otley Urban District for the year 1948.

The year under review has been momentous in the history of Public Health. One hundred years after the passing of the Public Health Act, 1848, which laid the foundation of good environmental hygiene, these four important measures of social legislation were introduced: the National Health Act, 1946; the National Insurance Act, 1946; the National Assistance Act, 1948, and the Children Act, 1948. These four measures may be expected to provide a foundation for steady progress in social medicine and welfare.

The health of the district during 1948 has been satisfactory and credit is due to Mr. H. R. Whitaker, Sanitary Inspector, for the thoroughness with which he has carried out his duties, although handicapped by being single-handed. Good progress has been made in the building of new houses in spite of the restrictions imposed during the first half of the year.

I am indebted to the Surveyor, Mr. J. A. A. Pratt, for his assistance in the preparation of my report on housing, water supplies and sewerage. I should like also to express my appreciation of the assistance freely rendered to me by the Clerk to the Council, Mr. F. Laughey, and his staff, and of the courtesy and consideration I have always received from the Chairman and members of the Health Committee.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

R. A. W. PROCTER,
Medical Officer of Health.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

I. GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,934
Registrar General's Estimated Population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11,180
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,818
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£71,716
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£292

II. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births:					<i>Male</i>		<i>Female</i>		<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	105	...	80	...	185
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	3	...	3	...	6
					<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	...	108	...	83	...	191
					<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>

Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population—17.1.

Still Births:					<i>Male</i>		<i>Female</i>		<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	3	...	1	...	4
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	1	...	—	...	1
					<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	...	4	...	1	...	5
					<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>

Rate per 1,000 of total live and still births—25.5.

Deaths:					<i>Male</i>		<i>Female</i>		<i>Total</i>
					88	...	94	...	182
Corrected Death Rate (all causes) per 1,000 of estimated population									16.3
Death Rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...		...	...		0.45
“ “ “ Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...		...	...		0.09
“ “ “ Tuberculosis (all forms)	...	...	...	...		...	...		0.54
“ “ “ Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...		...	...		1.43
“ “ “ Cancer	...	...	...	...		...	...		2.77
“ “ “ Heart and Circulatory Diseases	...	...	...	...		...	...		6.17
“ “ “ Zymotic Diseases	...	...	...	...		...	...		Nil

Infant Mortality:					<i>Male</i>		<i>Female</i>		<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	4	...	1	...	5
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	—	...	—	...	—

Death Rate of Infants per 1,000 live births—26.

CAUSES OF DEATH

Cause of Death	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	3	2	5
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	—	1
Syphilitic Diseases	1	—	1
Influenza	—	1	1
Cancer of Buccal Cavity & Esophagus, (M) ... and Uterus (F)	1	2	3
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	3	4	7
Cancer of Breast	—	6	6
Cancer—all other sites	9	6	15
Diabetes	1	—	1
Intra Cranial Vascular Lesions	11	18	29
Heart Disease	30	38	68
Other Circulatory Diseases	1	—	1
Bronchitis	9	2	11
Pneumonia	1	2	3
Other Respiratory Diseases	2	—	2
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	—	1
Other Digestive Diseases	1	1	2
Nephritis	—	2	2
Premature Birth	1	—	1
Congenital Malformation Birth Injury Infant Disease	3	—	3
Suicide	3	1	4
Other Violent Causes	1	1	2
All other causes	5	8	13
ALL CAUSES	88	94	182

COMPARATIVE STATISTICAL TABLE

	Otley Urban District	Aggregate of West Riding Urban Districts	West Riding Administrative County	England and Wales
Birth Rate. Per 1,000 Estimated Population	17.1	18.3	18.5	17.9
Death Rates. all per 1,000 Estimated Population.				
All Causes	16.3	11.8	11.3	10.8
Zymotic Diseases ...	Nil	0.12	0.12	*
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	0.45	0.37	0.37	0.44
Other forms of Tuber- culosis	0.09	0.07	0.07	0.07
Respiratory Diseases (Excluding Tubercu- losis of Resp. System)	1.43	1.34	1.29	*
Cancer	2.77	1.83	1.74	1.86
Heart and Circulatory Diseases	6.17	3.98	3.73	*
Infant Mortality ...	26	38	39	34
Diarrhoea (Deaths of infants under 2 years of age per 1,000 Live Births)	Nil	4.17	4.38	3.3
Maternal Mortality				
Puerperal Sepsis ...	Nil	0.09	0.10	0.24
Other Puerperal Causes	Nil	1.02	1.05	0.78

* Figures not available.

NOTES ON VITAL STATISTICS

Births

The Birth Rate of 17.1 is only slightly below the rates for the West Riding Administrative County and whole of England and Wales.

Deaths

The Death Rate of 16.3 is substantially higher than the rates for West Riding Urban Districts and England and Wales.

This difference is almost entirely accounted for by a moderately high rate for Cancer and a very high rate for Diseases of the Heart and Circulatory System. As the average age at death is over sixty years, Heart Disease and Cancer would be expected to account for a high proportion of deaths in the district.

Infant Mortality

The Infant Mortality Rate of 26 per thousand live births compares favourably with the figures for England and Wales and the average for Urban areas of the West Riding.

SECTION II

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Staff

The Medical Officer of Health is a part-time officer who, as Divisional Medical Officer, also acts as Medical Officer of Health to the Ilkley Urban District Council and the Wharfedale Rural District Council and, as an Assistant County Medical Officer, is responsible within the area for Health Services administered by the West Riding County Council. A whole-time Sanitary Inspector is employed and clerical assistance is provided by the Council.

Ambulance Service

Cases of Infectious Diseases continued to be removed by the ambulance based on the Menston Infectious Diseases Hospital. Cases of accident and illness were dealt with at the beginning of the year by the ambulance of the Wharfedale Joint Ambulance Committee who were acting on behalf of the West Riding County Council on an agency basis. On 1.2.48 the West Riding County Council Ambulance Depot at Guiseley was opened, and from that date all calls except for infectious disease were dealt with by ambulance based on that depot.

Laboratory Facilities

The laboratories of the Public Health Laboratory Service at Wakefield and Leeds are available for all bacteriological laboratory work from the Public Health Department and General Practitioners. Samples of Milk, Ice Cream and other foods are also accepted for testing. The chemical examination of water samples is undertaken by Messrs. Richardson & Jaffe, Public Analysts, Bradford.

Home Nursing

Up to July 5th, 1948, nursing in the Home was provided by the Otley District Nursing Association. After that date the service was taken over by the West Riding County Council.

Midwifery

A full-time district midwife with the part-time services of a relief midwife provided the domiciliary midwifery service under the administrative supervision of the West Riding County Council.

Maternity Home Treatment

Women from the district are admitted to the General Hospital, Otley, and to the Hazelwood Castle Maternity Home, Tadcaster. Abnormal cases are sent to the Leeds Maternity Hospital.

Ante-Natal Clinics

Sessions are held twice a month at The Child Welfare Centre, The Licks, Otley.

Infant Welfare Clinics

Sessions are held weekly at the Child Welfare Centre.

School Clinics

Sessions are held weekly at the Child Welfare Centre.

Tuberculosis Dispensary

Sessions are held weekly at Whiteley Croft, Station Road, Otley.

Venereal Diseases Clinics

Cases of Venereal Diseases are referred for treatment to the Special Department, Leeds General Infirmary.

Hospitals

General Diseases.—The General Hospital, Otley.

Infectious Diseases.—The Menston Infectious Diseases Hospital.

Postmortem Arrangements

Although the Mortuary is not used frequently for Postmortems, the Council decided to provide Postmortem Instruments, gloves, aprons, etc., for doctors who are called upon to carry out Postmortem examinations.

SECTION III

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

The water supply is derived from March Ghyll Reservoir and from Gooseland Spring and borehole and from Dade's Well at Danefield. The supply has been satisfactory in quantity and quality throughout the year. No major extensions of the water supply have been carried out during the year, although the supply has been extended to 26 new houses at Prestwick Close. Regular Sampling of both raw and treated water is carried out. Nine chemical tests were all satisfactory. Of 14 Bacteriological Tests, one sample from Dade's Well which must be considered a rural supply was of doubtful purity. As the water from March Ghyll Reservoir tends to be acid and therefore plumbo-solvent, regular tests at the filter plant are carried out. All samples have been satisfactory from the point of view of plumbo-solvency. It has been unnecessary to take any action on account of contamination of the water supply. Of the 3,534 houses in the District, all except 30 are on the public supply. A few huts on the Showfield and a few houses on Otley Chevin are still not connected to a public supply.

Drainage and Sewerage

Arrangements for the disposal of sewage have been satisfactory and no major alterations to the sewers or to the sewage disposal works have been effected. Messrs. Duncan, Barraclough & Co., Otley Mills, have submitted a scheme for connecting up to the Otley Council Sewers. Messrs. Silcock and Simpson, Consulting Engineers, have been engaged to prepare a scheme for an intercepting sewer to carry the sewage from the north side of the River Wharfe directly to the Sewage Works. Work had not been started on either scheme during the year under review.

Refuse Disposal

The whole of the District is served by the Council's refuse collection arrangements. Disposal is by controlled tipping. Minor difficulty has been encountered owing to fire at the tip and owing to trespass by young children. Otherwise arrangements have been satisfactory.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Routine inspections have been carried out as usual. It has not been possible for the Sanitary Inspector, who is singlehanded, to visit factories as often as is desirable in an industrial town.

1. Inspections for Purposes of Provisions as to Health.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are not to be enforced by L.A.'s	15	4	—	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) to which Section 7 applies	86	24	5	—
(3) Other premises under the Act	—	—	—	—
Total ...	101	28	5	—

2. Cases in which Defects were found.

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector	Prose- cutions
Ineffective drainage of floors	8	8	—	—
Sanitary conveniences unsuitable or defective ...	22	22	1	—
Sanitary conveniences not separate for sexes ...	3	3	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	10	6	1	—
Total ...	43	39	2	—

Outworkers

53 Persons were employed on outwork, four of whom were making wearing apparel and the remainder were employed on the carding of buttons.

SECTION IV**Housing**

Some progress has been achieved during the year but the work in the early part of the year was handicapped by Government restrictions on new buildings and by shortages of labour and materials.

Kineholme Estate

Of the 56 houses started in the spring of 1947 32 had been completed by the end of 1948 and 24 were still awaiting completion.

Weston Lane

The 50 Aluminium prefabricated houses were all occupied early in the year. The scheme for the erection of 72 permanent houses was reduced to 54 houses, owing to part of the land earmarked for these houses being sold to the West Riding County Council for the erection of a Nursery School. Of the 54 houses still visualized in the scheme approval has been obtained for the erection of 18 and work was in progress on them at the end of the year.

West Busk Lane Area

The fourteen houses at Prestwick Close in course of erection at the beginning of the year have been finished and 4 of the 12 houses commenced this year have also been completed and the remaining 8 were nearing completion.

Private Building

No new houses have been built by private enterprise although one new bungalow was commenced in East Busk Lane.

Conversions

Four houses have been converted by private owners into 8 flats, thus producing four extra units of accommodation.

Otley Showground Hutments

The negotiations with the Ministry of Health with a view to improving living conditions for squatters at this camp which were referred to in my report for 1947 have led to no result. The number of families occupying huts had been reduced to 18 by the end of the year, but the sanitary conditions of the camp are extremely unsatisfactory and constitute a menace to the inhabitants and to the general public.

Moveable Dwellings

There are two licensed camping sites within the District, e.g., Clarion Camp, Otley Chevin, on which are situated two moveable dwellings and Whitehouse Farm Mid. Chevin with three moveable dwellings. In addition there are two structures at East Busk Lane classified as moveable dwellings. The conditions laid down by the Council have been observed and the camps have been maintained in a satisfactory condition.

SECTION V

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply

The Otley Urban District is not an important milk producing area, there being 18 milk producers, 13 wholesale traders and 35 retailers. Regular inspections of milk producing farms are carried out, but routine milk sampling has not been undertaken owing to shortage of staff.

Ice Cream

New legislation has rendered the control of the manufacture and sale of ice cream more simple, although a recognised standard of quality has not yet been agreed. Inspection of premises applying for registration for the sale of ice cream has been carried out, but routine sampling has not been possible.

Meat and Other Foods

The Otley Abattoir is a fairly busy centre for the slaughter of animals, especially in the winter months, and the Sanitary Inspector has to devote a considerable proportion of his time to the work. He carries out both ante-mortem examination of the animals and postmortem inspection of the meat. Shops retailing meat and other foods are inspected as often as possible, but it is not possible to exercise as much supervision as is desirable over catering establishments. Market stalls are inspected regularly on market days.

Year 1948
Carcases Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)...	1357	452	414	5424	199
Number inspected ...	1357	452	414	5424	199
All diseases except Tuberculosis. Whole carcasses condemned	7	26	39	20	8
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned...	509	172	11	360	34
Percentage of the number inspected and affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	38.02	43.8	12.07	7.0	21.1
Tuberculosis Only. Whole carcasses condemned	17	41	2	Nil	3
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	95	155	1	Nil	18
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	8.2	43.3	.72	Nil	10.55

H. R. WHITAKER.

Food Poisoning Outbreaks

No food poisoning outbreaks have occurred during the year within the Otley District.

SECTION VI
INFECTIOUS DISEASES
TABLE SHOWING CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR

	Whooping Cough		Scarlet Fever		Pneumonia		Measles		Diphtheria		Erysipelas		Typhoid		Ophthalmia		Puerperal Fever		Polio-myelitis	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Nos. originally notified	42	26	10	11	23	19	1	2	5	9	2	5	—	1	2	—	—	2	1	—
Final Nos. after correction—																				
0—1	2	2	—	—	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—2	11	4	—	—	7	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2—3	10	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3—4	2	4	1	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4—5	7	3	1	2	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	9	8	4	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—15	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—35	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
35—45	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—65	—	—	—	—	6	4	—	1	—	—	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	42	26	8	8	23	19	1	2	—	1	2	5	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—

TABLE SHOWING MONTHLY DISTRIBUTION OF CASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR

DISEASE	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTALS
Whooping Cough ...	—	1	—	1	6	5	5	14	10	7	13	6	68
Scarlet Fever ...	2	1	—	3	2	1	3	2	—	3	3	1	21
Pneumonia ...	11	10	3	2	—	2	3	3	2	—	—	6	42
Measles ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	3
Diphtheria ...	1	2	1	—	2	—	1	2	2	2	—	1	14
Erysipelas ...	1	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	1	—	7
Dysentery ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	2	—	1	1	—	6
Typhoid ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Puerperal Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
TOTALS ...	15	15	6	8	10	11	14	26	14	15	19	14	167

Diphtheria

During 1948 a total of 14 cases were admitted to the Menston Infectious Diseases Hospital with a diagnosis of suspected Diphtheria. Only one case, an adult female, was confirmed after laboratory investigation. This case which was notified at the end of September, 1948, was the first confirmed case of diphtheria which had occurred within the district for over 2 years.

A large number of school children were immunized or re-immunized and no further cases occurred.

Whooping Cough

68 Cases of whooping cough were notified most of which occurred during the summer and autumn. This number is a considerable increase over 1947 when only 17 cases were reported.

Measles

The incidence of measles was very low during the year ; only 3 cases being reported.

Pneumonia

Forty-two cases of Pneumonia were notified and twenty-eight were admitted to hospital. Three deaths occurred, one a baby of six months and a child of thirteen months and a third of seventeen months. These three cases died soon after admission to hospital.

Dysentery

6 Cases of dysentery were reported, of whom one, a woman of 69, died.

Poliomyelitis

In contrast to 1947 when poliomyelitis was rife throughout the country, only one case was notified as poliomyelitis. This was a boy of 10 years who was found lying under a hedge unconscious. He was admitted to hospital where the cause of his unconsciousness was investigated. Eventually after a lapse of 2 months a diagnosis of "abortive poliomyelitis" was made and the case was therefore notified.

Tuberculosis

During the year 1948 new cases notified were 16 Pulmonary (11 male and 5 female) and 6 non-pulmonary (4 male and 2 female). This is an increase of 5 Pulmonary and 3 non-pulmonary over the figures for 1947. During the year close liaison has been established with the Tuberculosis Officer. In cases where, owing to bad housing conditions, there is a risk of spread of the disease, a visit is paid to the house by the Tuberculosis Officer, Sanitary Inspector and Medical Officer of Health and agreed recommendations are then placed before the Housing Committee. It is gratifying to be able to report that, when priority in the allocation of a house has been recommended, the Housing Committee of the Otley Urban District Council has invariably accepted the recommendation and accorded the priority. At the end of the year the position in respect to the housing of cases of Tuberculosis has been vastly improved.

		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
		M.	F.	M.	F.
(a)	Number of cases on Register at commencement of year ...	44	33	23	16
(b)	Number of cases notified for first time during year ...	11	5	4	2
(c)	Number of cases restored to Register ...	—	—	—	—
(d)	Number of cases added to Register other than by notification	—	—	—	—
(e)	Number of cases removed from Register ...	3	3	2	—
(f)	Number of cases remaining on Register at 31/12/48 ...	52	35	25	18

NEW CASES NOTIFIED IN 1948

Age					Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
					M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	1	...	...	—	—	—	—
	—	5	...	...	—	—	2	—
	—	15	...	...	2	1	1	2
	—	25	...	...	3	1	1	—
	—	35	...	...	1	2	—	—
	—	45	...	...	1	1	—	—
	—	55	...	...	1	—	—	—
	—	65	...	...	3	—	—	—
	—	65 and over	...	...	—	—	—	—
Totals ...					11	5	4	2

PRINTERDOM, OTLEY.

